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General and complete disarmament: Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status

Security Council
Fifty-fifth year

Letter dated 16 October 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Mongolia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to forward herewith the Statement of the Government of Mongolia made in connection with the joint Statement by the five nuclear-weapon States on providing security assurances to Mongolia.

I should be most grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 73 (c), and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jargalsaikhany **Enkhsaikhan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

00-69426 (E) 181000

Annex to the letter dated 16 October 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Mongolia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement of the Government of Mongolia

In 1992, in the emerging post-cold-war international environment, Mongolia declared its territory a nuclear-weapon-free zone. The aim of the initiative was not only to strengthen Mongolia's security in the new geopolitical setting by political and diplomatic means, but also to promote nuclear non-proliferation, stability and mutual trust in the region. The initiative of Mongolia was broadly supported by the international community. Thus the General Assembly, in support of the initiative, adopted on 4 December 1998 resolution 53/77 D, entitled "Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status". In implementation of the resolution, the Government of Mongolia has taken a number of concrete measures, including the adoption of legislation on Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status. It has also undertaken a series of consultations with the relevant States, especially with the five nuclear-weapon States, and the appropriate United Nations bodies in a search for ways and means of strengthening the country's nuclear-weapon-free status, the credibility and effectiveness of the status as well as the country's overall external security.

As a result of the consultations undertaken by Mongolia with the nuclear-weapon States, the latter have issued a joint Statement providing nuclear security assurances to Mongolia in connection with its nuclear-weapon-free status. Thus they reaffirmed their commitment to "seek immediate United Nations Security Council action to provide assistance to Mongolia, as a non-nuclear-weapon State party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, in accordance with the provisions of Security Council resolution 984 (1995) of 11 April 1995, if Mongolia should become a victim of an act of aggression or an object of a threat of aggression in which nuclear weapons are used". They also reaffirmed, in the case of Mongolia, their respective unilateral negative security assurances, as stated in their declarations issued on 5 and 6 April 1995 and referred to in Security Council resolution 984 (1995) of 11 April 1995 (S/1995/261-265). Moreover, Mongolia's two immediate neighbours, the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation, also reaffirmed their legally binding commitments with respect to Mongolia assumed on the basis of the bilateral treaties concluded with the latter.

Under the Statement, the nuclear-weapon States have also pledged their continued cooperation with Mongolia in the implementation of the provisions of General Assembly resolution 53/77 D with respect to the latter's nuclear-weapon-free status. The Government of Mongolia expresses its resolve to cooperate with the above States to implement the provisions of the resolution as well as to consolidate its nuclear-weapon-free status.

The Government of Mongolia expresses its appreciation to the international community for the support of its initiative. It believes that the Statement by the nuclear-weapon States represents an important step towards institutionalizing Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status at the international level. The Government of Mongolia reaffirms its readiness to cooperate with all the States Members of the

United Nations and the relevant United Nations bodies in enhancing the effectiveness and strengthening the credibility of the status.

Ulaanbaatar, 6 October 2000